
By: **Delegate Dembrow**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Forest Resources - Forest Resource Plan**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to consider
4 certain goals when developing, reviewing, and revising a certain forest resource
5 plan; and generally relating to the forest resource plan.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Natural Resources
8 Section 5-214
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Natural Resources**

14 5-214.

15 (a) The Department shall develop a system for long-range renewable forest
16 resources planning. The public and private forest land resources of Maryland,
17 including, but not limited to, wood fiber, forest recreation, wildlife, fish, forest
18 watershed, and wilderness potential, shall be examined and inventoried periodically.
19 As part of the forest resource planning process, the Department periodically shall
20 develop, review and revise a resource plan [that should help to provide for a
21 sustained yield of forest resource benefits for the citizens of Maryland]. The forest
22 resource plan shall be made available for public and legislative review and comment.

23 (B) (1) IN DEVELOPING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE FOREST
24 RESOURCE PLAN AS IT RELATES TO PUBLIC FOREST LAND RESOURCES, THE
25 DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER AS PRIMARY GOALS FOR THE PLAN THE LONG-TERM
26 PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE PUBLIC FOREST LAND RESOURCES,
27 INCLUDING:

28 (I) WILDLIFE, FISH, AND PLANT COMMUNITIES; AND

1 (II) STREAMS, WATER SUPPLIES, AND WATERSHEDS.

2 (2) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IN DEVELOPING,
3 REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE FOREST RESOURCE PLAN AS IT RELATES TO PUBLIC
4 FOREST LAND RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT MAY, AS APPROPRIATE, PROVIDE FOR:

5 (I) THE RECREATIONAL USE OF FORESTS; AND

6 (II) THE SUSTAINABLE YIELDS OF FOREST PRODUCTS ON FOREST
7 LANDS.

8 (C) IN DEVELOPING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE FOREST RESOURCE
9 PLAN AS IT RELATES TO PRIVATE FOREST LAND RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT
10 SHALL:

11 (1) CONSIDER THE PRIMARY GOALS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF
12 THIS SECTION;

13 (2) CONSIDER THE DESIRES OF INDIVIDUAL FOREST LAND OWNERS;
14 AND

15 (3) ENCOURAGE PRIVATE FOREST LAND OWNERS TO PROVIDE FOR A
16 SUSTAINED YIELD OF FOREST RESOURCES.

17 [(b)] (D) To assure the availability and compatibility of planning data,
18 scientific information and funding, the Department shall cooperate with the U.S.
19 Department of Agriculture in forest resource planning efforts as provided for in the
20 Forest and Rangelands Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and the
21 Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.

22 [(c)] (E) The Department may accept federal funds and may provide cost
23 share funds to cooperative governments.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2002.